If our goal is control and prevention rather than retribution, only widespread education and counseling offer real hope. Effectiveness of such efforts will be somewhat limited by the extent to which drug use is symptomatic of underlying social and individual problems, but authoritative information about drugs and drug laws would probably reduce self-experimentation with drugs. Several studies (notably the one conducted by the Juvenile Justice Commission of San Mateo County) emphasize that the teenager's own ethical system and the fear of physical consequences are far greater deterrents to drug use than parental attitudes or legal consequences.

Several school districts are attempting to modernize their instruction and to provide counseling in addition to the required hours of instruction. In most communities, however, assistance from experienced workers from one of the treatment facilities described above will be required.

The effort of the State Department of Education to provide the badly needed manual of information for teachers and others has been disappointing. The book was prepared by two inexperienced gentlewomen who apparently were more concerned with "public acceptance" than with the technical advice of their advisory committee.

CORRECTION

In the article, "Re-Examination and Re-Certification of Physicians" by Justin J. Stein, M.D., in the August issue of California Medicine, reference 6 (page 177) indicated that the work referred to was originally published in the Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons. It was not. It was reprinted in the Bulletin of the American College of Surgeons, with permission, from Northwest Medicine, 66:715-717, August, 1967, where it originated.